Table 8-4. Yard Waste Projections By Recycling Method in Fairfax County, 2004-2025 (in thousands of tons)

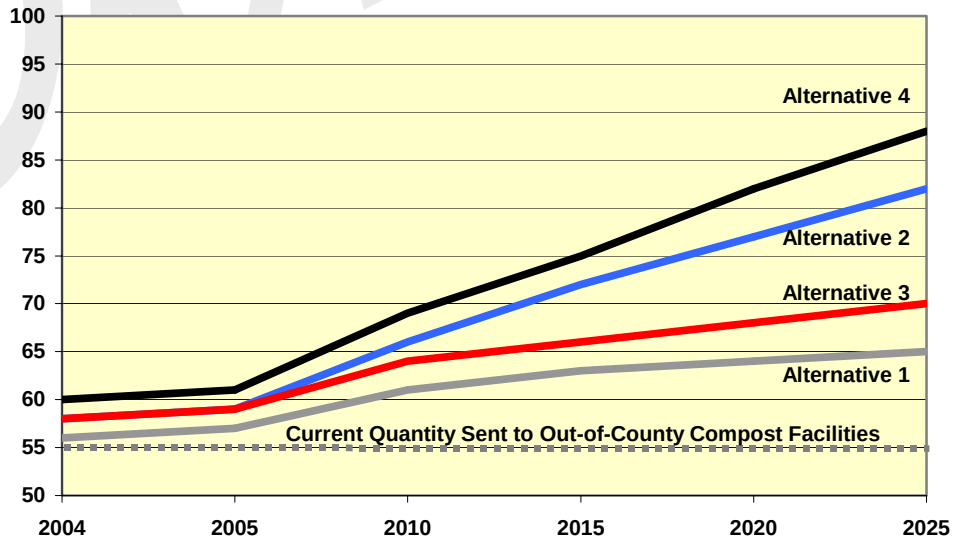
Year	Out-of-County Composting Facility	Mulched Brush	Mulched Vacuumed Leaves
2004	56-60	52-55	6
2005	57-61	53-57	6-7
2010	61-69	57-64	7
2015	63-75	58-70	7-8
2020	64-82	60-76	7-9
2025	65-88	60-82	7-10

The county's primary capacity concern for yard waste is the ability of the out-of-county composting facilities to handle the increased yard waste quantities.

County facilities have sufficient capacity to mulch the projected increased quantities of brush and vacuumed leaves. Similarly, the county expects demand for mulch to be sufficient, as it is likely to increase at the same rate as population growth.

The primary capacity concern for yard waste in Fairfax County is the ability of the out-of-county composting facilities to handle the increased yard waste quantities, especially during catastrophic events such as hurricanes. Figure 8-1 shows the projected quantities of county yard waste sent to out-of-county composting facilities over the SWMP planning period.

Figure 8-1. Projections of County Yard Waste Recycled at Out-Of-County Composting Facilities 2004–2025 (in thousands of tons)



SWMP Actions

Table 8-5 shows Fairfax County's SWMP actions for yard waste recycling. The county selected SWMP actions based on their alignment with the SWMP objectives (in Chapter 4) and their ability to close the

gaps between the county's current SWM system and that required in the future. These SWMP actions are discussed in more detail in Chapter 11.

Table 8-5. Fairfax County Yard Waste Recycling SWMP Actions

Yard Waste Recycling SWMP Actions
Promote public/private recycling programs
Improve public outreach and education to promote recycling
Continue current yard waste recycling system; contract with out-of-county composting facilities for dedicated capacity

Collection

Current Programs

Fairfax County code establishes requirements for the recycling and collection of yard waste

The Fairfax County Code, Section 109-5-2, establishes requirements for the recycling of yard debris, including leaves and grass clippings as well as brush. Residents of single-family homes—and many townhouses—are required to recycle their brush (tree trimmings) year round. Grass and leaves can be set out seasonally and are collected April 1 through December 24. Private collectors must collect brush once per week year-round; they must collect grass and leaves once per week between April 1 and December 24 only. Property managers at apartment and condominium complexes are required to recycle all yard debris generated in common areas.

There are several options that residents have for recycling yard waste:

- recycling yard debris in their own yards (grasscycling and/or composting)
- setting out grass, clippings, and leaves at the curb in transparent plastic bags, reusable plastic or metal containers, or paper yard debris bags for a collection company to pickup and dispose
- engaging a landscaping service, who is required to recycle any materials removed from the property such as leaves, grass clippings and brush
- taking yard debris to the I-66 Transfer Station and I-95 Landfill Complex citizens' disposal areas

County Provided Leaf Collection

Fairfax County staff provides vacuum leaf collection service in 30 specially created leaf collection districts during the leaf season only. This

program is discussed in more detail in the "Recycling" section of this chapter.

Fairfax County projects annual yard waste collection quantities to increase between 15 and 48 percent from 2004 to 2025, *assuming continuation of current waste management practices.*

Assessment of Current and Future Collection Needs

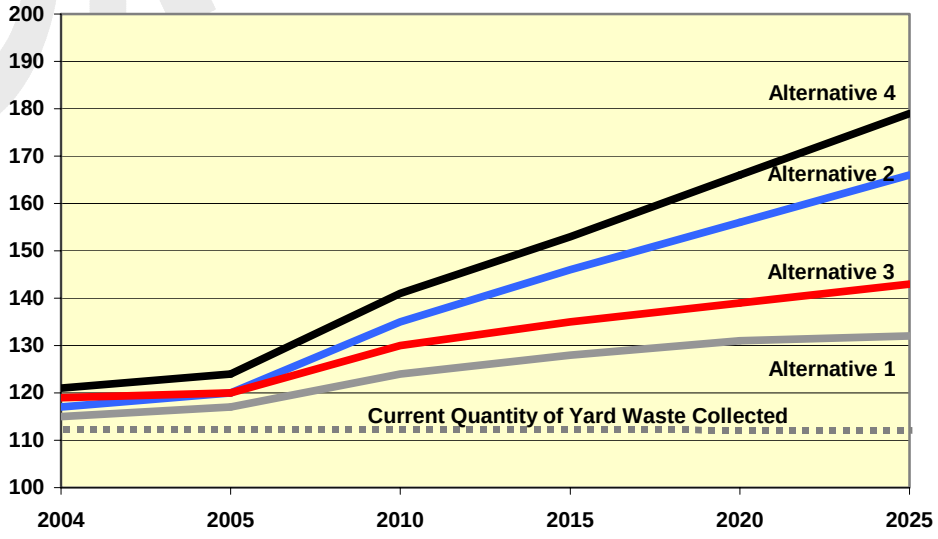
Chapter 2 of this SWMP presents the projected quantities of yard waste generated in Fairfax County over the SWMP planning period.

Table 8-6 and Figure 8-2 show the projected quantities of yard waste collected in the county over the SWMP planning period for the four projection alternatives. ***(Note that these projections assume the continuation of the county's current management practices and conditions.)*** The county projects annual yard waste collection quantities in Fairfax County will increase between 15 and 48 percent from 2004 to 2025.

Table 8-6. Yard Waste Collection Projections for Fairfax County, 2004-2025 (in thousands of tons)

Year	Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 4
2004	115	117	119	121
2005	117	120	120	124
2010	124	135	130	141
2015	128	146	135	153
2020	131	156	139	166
2025	132	166	143	179

Figure 8-2. Yard Waste Collection Projections for Fairfax County, 2004-2025 (in thousands of tons)



Fairfax County's SWM collection system must handle an additional 17,000 to 58,000 tons per year of yard waste by 2025.

The county projects that the current yard waste collection system must handle an additional 17,000 to 58,000 tons per year by 2025. Therefore, the existing collection system will have to expand, by adding collection vehicles and labor, to meet the increased quantities.

SWMP Actions

Table 8-7 shows Fairfax County's SWMP actions for the collection of yard waste. The county selected SWMP actions based on their alignment with the SWMP objectives (in Chapter 4) and their ability to close the gaps between the county's current SWM system and that required in the future. These SWMP actions are discussed in more detail in Chapter 11.

Table 8-7. Fairfax County Yard Waste Collection SWMP Actions

Yard Waste Collection SWMP Actions
County oversees residential collection services (including yard waste) through contracts with private companies
Continue current vacuumed leaf collection system
Promote use of special fuels, filters, and special vehicles for collection
Implement a collection and disposal strategy for emergencies

Transfer

Fairfax County accepts yard waste at the I-66 Transfer Station and I-95 Landfill Complex.

Current Programs

Fairfax County accepts yard waste at two transfer facilities: the I-66 Transfer Station and the I-95 Landfill Complex. Both facilities accept yard debris (leaves and grass) and brush shipments from haulers and citizens, and process vacuumed leaves.

Yard waste collected at the I-66 Transfer Station and I-95 Landfill Complex is either hauled to out-of-county composting facilities or ground into mulch for distribution to county residents. Table 8-8 shows the quantities of brush, yard debris, and vacuumed leaves received at the I-66 Transfer Station and I-95 Landfill Complex as well as the destination for recycling from 2000 to 2002.

Table 8-8. Fairfax County Yard Waste Transfer Quantities (2000–2002), tons

	2000	2001	2002
Inbound Yard Waste			
I-66 Inbound Brush	28,745	31,100	34,000
I-66 Inbound Leaves and Grass	25,942	27,022	29,380
I-95 Inbound Brush	12,667	15,030	14,085
I-95 Inbound Leaves and Grass	16,508	20,365	18,817
I-66 & I-95 Inbound Vacuumed Leaves	9,000	9,697	8,014
Outbound Yard Waste			
Sent to Out-of-County Composting Facilities	45,060	49,561	54,061
Prince William County Compost Facility	21,414	29,502	32,133
Loudoun Composting	23,646	20,059	21,928
Brush Mulch Distributed	42,450	47,387	48,196
Vacuumed Leaves Mulch Distributed	6,390	7,523	2,150

In 2002, the county sent 54,061 tons of yard debris to out-of-county composting facilities, the majority (32,133 tons) to the Prince William County Compost Facility at Balls Ford Road and a smaller amount (21,928 tons) to Loudoun Composting, a private composting facility in Loudoun County.

Brush and vacuum leaves are mulched or ground and made available at no cost to county residents. In 2002, Fairfax County ground and distributed 48,196 tons of brush and 2,150 tons of vacuumed leaves.

Assessment of Current and Future Transfer Needs

Chapter 2 of this SWMP presents the projected quantities of yard waste generated in Fairfax County over the SWMP planning period.

Fairfax County projects annual yard waste transfer quantities to increase between 15 and 48 percent from 2004 to 2025, *assuming continuation of current waste management practices.*

Almost all yard waste generated in Fairfax County is managed at the I-66 Transfer Station and I-95 Landfill Complex. As a result, the yard waste generation projections also represent our yard waste transfer projections. Table 8-9 presents the projected quantities of yard waste handled at the I-66 Transfer Station and I-95 Landfill Complex over the SWMP planning period. These estimates were developed based on current percentages of yard waste handled by these facilities and future yard waste projections. ***(Note that these projections assume the continuation of the county's current management practices and conditions.)*** The county projects annual yard waste transfer quantities in Fairfax County will increase between 15 and 48 percent from 2004 to 2025.

Table 8-9. Future Projections of Yard Waste Handled at I-66 Transfer Station and I-95 Landfill Complex, 2004–2025 (in thousands of tons)

Year	I-66 Transfer Station	I-95 Landfill Complex
2004	73-75	42-44
2005	74-78	43-46
2010	78-89	46-52
2015	81-97	47-57
2020	83-105	48-61
2025	83-113	49-66

The I-66 Transfer Station and I-95 Landfill Complex transfer facilities have sufficient capacities to handle the projected increased quantities of yard waste.

The I-66 Transfer Station and I-95 Landfill Complex transfer facilities have sufficient capacities to handle the projected increased quantities of yard waste generated over the SWMP planning period.

SWMP Actions

Table 8-10 shows Fairfax County's SWMP actions for the transfer of yard waste. The county selected SWMP actions based on their alignment with the SWMP objectives (in Chapter 4) and their ability to close the gaps between the county's current SWM system and that required in the future. These SWMP actions are discussed in more detail in Chapter 11.

Table 8-10. Fairfax County Yard Waste Transfer SWMP Actions

CDD Transfer SWMP Actions
Continue using the current transfer system
Reconfigure or construct waste handling areas at the I-66 Transfer Station, including areas to handle increased yard waste